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The History Of Arcade Games

By Simon Oliver

Gaming today is a recognized element of our cultural scenery, even to people who are over thirty or

who can barely recall the time before arcade games were invented. Gone are the days when you would play Pac-Man or the famous Mario Brothers game. Although they are still played and enjoyed today, they have been enhanced into dimensional games and versions. People will never forget the old games and that's a good thing because there is a history here that shouldn't be forgotten.

Gaming is not a recent breakthrough. Arcade games began many years ago. They weren't as acceptable as they are now. Artifacts from Egypt and Sumeria have revealed that our ancestors enjoyed playing board games thousands of years ago.

The electronic games we have now required the creation of electronic computers. The early computers were slow and prone to failures. Early programmers felt obliged to waste their time by programming these computers to do things like tic-tac-toe. When World War II ended, electronic computers started becoming standard equipment in the more progressive laboratories. Soon afterwards, they were incorporated with large corporations, establishments and companies. It can be argued that university students were the first game programmers, exploring their fantasies and sci-fi visions into digital applications which we are still using. Their imaginations have turned gaming into a digital masterpiece.

The perception of establishing an electronic game system to the screen or the television was invented by Ralph Bauer during the early 1950's. This made the first game possible. After that, he introduced and presented his ideas to Magnavox, a television company. The company liked his ideas and inventions so well that they have released a sophisticated version of Bauer's "Brown Box" prototype, known as the Magnavox Odyssey in 1972. By today's standards, the Odyssey was prehistoric, displaying only spots of light on the screen. It also required the use of translucent plastic overlays to replicate the appearance of the game.

The first truly popular console system was known as the Atari 2600. It was released in 1977. The Atari made use of plug-in cartridges in order to play a variety of games. The popularity of Space Invaders was a breakthrough and it became a best seller during that time. The computer games written for the TRS-80 and Apple II computers were attracting interest at this time.

The History Of Arcade Games

There are several books and articles about the history of arcade games.

Simon Oliver has an interest in Arcade Games. To access more articles on Arcade Games or for additional information and resources visit this Arcade Games related website

<http://www.newarcadegameresources.info>

Looking Back To Some Classic Arcade Games

By Dana Goldberg

A kid asks his dad. "Dad, how did arcade games look like during those times?"

The father replied, "Well son, at the moment arcade games are fantastic. But I tell you son, twenty years ago I did play Pac-man and Pong."

Isn't it great to think that even our parents also played arcade games? Imagine this, parents during their teenage days grabbed every chance to brush up with his or her joystick skills and wrestled with the arcade game for dominance.

Arcade game companies started during the midyear of 1960's and continuously grew up to the present time. They all transformed arcade games into a much more significant direction.

Arcade games since they were established, have become one of the fastest growing and profitable industry technology sectors. For the past several years, the arcade game was made simple and plain.

Now going back to the classic arcade type of game, what was the scenery like in the golden age of arcade games?

During the early times of the arcade games, the games backgrounds did not use any Macromedia Flash Software or Java Sun Plugging. The setting was only made basic and simple.

There were only few games that used web browser during those times. The most common type of games was leaning towards more on funny and humorous kinds like "Swat the Clown".

At the present times, the golden era of the arcade games is republished on some arcade websites. Most of the websites that reinvented retro arcades have captivated the mid 60's and 70's arcade period.

As a matter of fact, parents can still enjoy the classic board games like Stratego, Shoot them Up, and on to casino games and puzzles.

During the premature time of arcade games, the multiplayer game was set for one player only. On the other hand, during those times there were also multiplayer games but only for limited number of players.

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A casino game is also the peak rank when it comes to classic arcade games. Nowadays, it is also updated over the net continuously. Grown-ups can enjoy the chance to gamble without the financial risks or gains. The classic arcade game is still there like poker, lucky 9, black jack and other casino games. It is very economical because the player is not going to spend a single cent.

Another game is Falling Asteroid. This game is one of the oldest invented arcade games. This game is all about trying to maneuver falling debris coming from the outer space. This game also has a new type of version. The new version follows the trend that the retro setting has. The asteroid is still falling and

the player can still drive his ship away to the outer part of space.

There are also some classic games that are still alive nowadays. Games like Prince of Persia, Donkey Kong, Frogger and dozens that once invaded arcade's kingdom and barrooms are still kicking some joysticks.

Puzzle games overload the classic arcade games. With such games like Tetris, Connect 56 and Strategy War bumping the line edge of the classic board amusement.

Sports games never stop to amuse and entertain its players. Classic games like gold racing, skate boarding and sliding can still be played at a lot of places and of course online.

It is never too late to play those classic arcades games again, and believe me, it is a lot of fun!

D. Goldberg is the editor of Arcade Games Station. Download the best arcade games of the 80s.

<http://www.arcadegamesstation.info>



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